

WARREN SENTINEL



"Jolly Rogers"

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Volume 64, Issue 41


F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming

October 14, 2005

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**Wingman
Focus Day
Monday**

U.S. AIR FORCE



Photo by Berni Ernst

END OF AN ERA ...

Lt. Col. David Bliesner, 400th Missile Squadron Commander, cases the 400 MS guidon, along with Airman 1st Class Shawn Ruiz 400 MS, as part of the 400 MS inactivation ceremony at the Pronghorn center Oct. 4.

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Commentary

How to distinguish yourself above the rest

Master Sgt. Gerald Dickson
90th Communications Squadron First Sergeant

The third quarter awards are upon us, and you say to yourself, "what can I do to make myself stand above the rest?" That's a good question, and just asking yourself that simple question is a start.

Recognition is a very important part of your career, whether you want to believe it or not. Many times this recognition you receive is the deciding factor as to who will be selected for things like below-the-zone, Stripes for Exceptional Performers, special awards, etc ... not to mention it makes for good bullets on your EPR/OPR. If you are a civilian this may be the deciding factor in you receiving an incentive award or possibly a promotion.

Now what does it take to be recognized? Simply doing your job is not enough. We are full of people in our Air Force who are doing their job. While they are doing their job well, it takes an extra effort to stand above the rest. Things like off-duty education, community involvement and getting involved in professional organizations show you are willing to go above and beyond.

Now a lot of people will say "I just don't have the time to get involved," and I say sometimes they are correct. I have used that excuse many times in my career and had no chance of getting recognized when I did. How many times have you sat at home with nothing to do but watch the television? I am not saying de-

vote every waking hour to a base activity or something in the community, because you will get burnt out really quickly. Pick something you are good at or have a passion for and volunteer to help out or lead the activity. This shows signs of leadership.

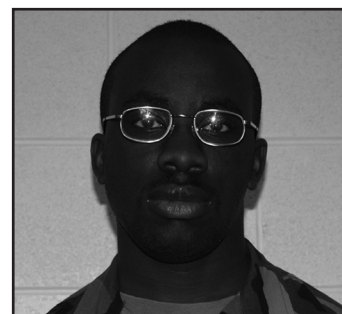
Self-improvement via off-duty education is important. The Air Force will pay 100 percent of your tuition. Off-duty education helps you become a more effective leader. That public speaking class you are dreading will help you more effectively communicate with your troops and supervisor. The English composition course will make you a better writer. Our Air Force leadership has seen the advantages gained by this and have simplified the environment to help you achieve a higher level of education. Bottom line here is, if you haven't started, get off your keister and get started, and have the perseverance to complete it.

Volunteering on base and in the community is a sign of leadership and initiative. This past quarter there have been multiple opportunities to volunteer in the

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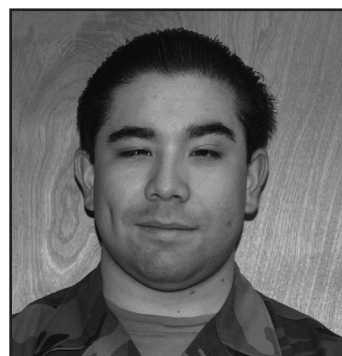
Man on the street

The Warren Sentinel asked Warren members, "What does Wingman Day mean to you?"



"It means getting to know my fellow man better, making the mission more fun."

- Airman 1st Class Jonathan Jones, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron



"It helps me understand that I can rely on my fellow Airmen."

- Senior Airman Adam Diaz, 90th Communications Squadron



"It's a great opportunity to get to know the people that I work with because these are the people I will be deployed with and it's always good to know who you are in the cross fire with."

- Airman 1st Class Shaine Montgomery, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron



"It's a good time to get together with my co-workers and have some fun."

- Airman 1st Class Rebecca Dodson, 90th Medical Operations Squadron

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Articles are due to public affairs, Building 250, room 201, by 4:30 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. Classified ads are due by 11 a.m. Tuesday the week of publication.

Classified ads can also be dropped off or mailed to Wyoming Newspapers, Inc., 202 E. 18th St., by 1 p.m. Tuesday the week of publication. Articles and ads that don't meet these deadlines won't be considered for that week's issue. Edito-

rial content is edited, prepared and provided by 90th Space Wing Public Affairs of Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., of Air Force Space Command. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Public affairs reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

Direct questions or comments to the SENTINEL at 773-3381 or e-mail at Sentinel@warren.af.mil.

Published by:
Wyoming Newspapers, Inc.
202 E. 18th St., Cheyenne, WY, 82005
(307) 632-5666
Sentinel@warren.af.mil

A place to call home: defining your roots

Lt. Col. Tim Cothrel
5th Bomb Wing staff judge advocate

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. -- "There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings."
-- Hodding Carter, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist.

My parents are in the process of moving. That is not exactly earth-shaking news for most middle-aged American men, but this is the first time my parents have moved since 1968. Lyndon Johnson was president when they moved into their current house. Men had not yet landed on the moon. The Beatles were alive, well and still together.

My parents didn't move much before 1968, either. In fact, they are moving into what will be only the fourth home they have shared in the 48 years they have been married. In contrast, my wife and I have been married for

only six years, and we are already living in home number four.

Why such a difference? Part of it is the changes in American society in general over the past several decades. In agricultural communities, families were tied to the land, and so they stayed in one area generation after generation. As the country became more and more industrialized, we became more and more mobile. Now that we are a post-industrial nation, we have to be poised to move at a moment's notice.

By the time my son is my age, thanks to the exploding growth of technologies like the Internet and cellular phones, people will probably be in virtually constant motion, whizzing around the country in their hydrogen fusion-powered hovercars watching high-definition anime downloaded to the plasma screens on their palms and their berries with the MP3 ringtones and ... OK,

I admit it. I don't really understand what most of that mumbo jumbo even means (as a lawyer, I'm naturally mediocre when it comes to high-tech). But, I seriously do wonder if his generation will ever understand the importance of the concept of "home" once had in American culture.

To me, home is, more than anything, about the feeling of belonging somewhere. The word itself creates an instant sense of comfort, familiarity and security. The house my parents are finally leaving remains my home. I lived there from first grade until I left for college. I've been back since for dozens of holidays, vacations and visits.

I feel like I could drive there without a map from any point on the continent, guided by sheer instinct. In my heart's eye, no matter where I am stationed, and no matter how plush my parent's new condo turns out to be, that old brick house will always be

what I picture when I hear the word "home."

There are times I envy the stability of my parents' lives. As an Airman, I will never have the roots they take for granted. I will never get to know a town or a school or a neighbor the way they did. I will never see a seedling oak grow to tower over my house like they did. I will never be able to tell my grandchildren stories about their father's exploits in the very backyard where they are standing.

The Air Force can't give us a life like my parents. To paraphrase Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., as Airmen, we fight where we are told (and win where we fight). The constantly changing needs of the mission and the system of professional development don't permit us to grow such roots. Instead, we get wings. Wings make us agile, versatile and flexible to do what must be done where it must be done. Wings keep us moving not

only from base to base and house to house, but onward, upward and forward in our growth and our performance as individuals and as teams.

But in spite of this necessity for regular changes in our jobs, locations, co-workers, etc., the Air Force still manages to give us roots of another kind. We share history, customs, traditions, experiences and above all, purpose. These are the roots that give us our identity and form the ties that bind us to each other, to the past and to the future. They create a neighborhood that has no geographical boundaries but is still as real as any village or parish or city.

We are not just working for the Air Force. We are members of the Air Force. We belong to it and it belongs to us, just like any family or community. No matter where in the world we go, no matter what mission we perform, every time we suit up, we come home.

Stand out, from Page 2

local community and on base. You don't have to spend every waking hour doing this; budget your time and get involved. Not only will this show you are a leader, but it just might make you feel good that you helped someone out.

Professional organizations such as Air Force Sergeants Association, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, Company Grade Officers Association, etc ... are there to help our own. Get involved. This helps promote esprit de corps and shows you are concerned enough

about your career to get involved and help out. These organizations do a lot for the base community and need your help to accomplish this.

I know I have not talked much about your primary job, being an Air Force warrior, and I will cover that now. Your job performance is the key to this whole process. How did your work impact the squadron, the base or the Air Force? Did you save money by changing a process? Did you reduce man hours spent on a certain process?

Are you willing to sit back and go with the status quo, or do you see a better way to do something and act on it? Don't just do your job, do your job well and you will get nominated.

What I have seen from the boards I have sat on is that most nominees are excelling at their job. They all score well in this category. The deciding factor then comes down to how strong are the "other" categories. The person who is willing to go above and beyond will get the award. I realize some

of you will always have the perception that the quarterly and annual award process rewards the competitive person at the expense of the "hard worker" and misplaces the recognition. I give my vote to the individuals who excel at their job, take initiative, contribute to the community and better themselves.

Want to win? Then distinguish yourself from the pack and make an impact. Make yourself competitive for an award that matches your talents, interests and strengths.

6 by 2

Maj. Gen. Klotz relinquishes command

Maj. John Storey
Twentieth Air Force

Major General Frank G. Klotz will relinquish command of Twentieth Air Force in a ceremony at Argonne Parade Field today after nearly 30 months in the job. The new commander of Twentieth Air Force will be Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Deppe, who previously served as the Director of Logistics and Communications at Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson AFB, Colo.

General Klotz's tour as commander witnessed many dramatic changes in America's intercontinental ballistic missile force. Under his command, the nation's 50 Peacekeeper missiles were safely and successfully deactivated on schedule, thus completing the first major step in implementing both the Department of Defense's Nuclear Posture Review and the Moscow Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions.

According to General Klotz, one of his most important tasks was to remind Americans everywhere about the continued importance of Twentieth Air Force mission.

"Even though the Cold War is over," he said, "the mission of strategic deterrence continues to be of vital importance to America's security. As our Chief of Staff General Moseley says, our ICBMs are 'the strategic

backstop for our nation.'" For this reason, Twentieth Air Force is embarked upon a multifaceted \$6 billion campaign to ensure that the nation's 500 Minuteman III missiles remain a viable weapon system through the year 2020. During General Klotz's tenure, the Minuteman III force received new solid-rocket motors, a more sustainable guidance system and post-boost vehicle, and a new launch control center communications system capable of making full use of the Air Force's MILSTAR satellite constellation and

developments in security technology. His pioneering efforts, including a renewed and close partnership with the Wyoming Army National Guard, resulted in the establishment of the Nuclear and Space Security Tactics Training Center at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., a center of excellence for security force training. AFSPC security forces now receive "post-graduate" training on defense and recovery of ICBM weapons.

In August, the concept of AFSPC having its own Response Task Force for ICBM accidents and incidents became a reality. The Diligent Warrior series of national-level nuclear accident response exercises changed the long-established practice in which a single major command exercised responsibility for any such incident in the Air Force to one in which AFSPC assumed it for all weapons in its custody.

Finally, when the nation was struck with two devastating hurricanes in a matter of weeks, Twentieth Air Force personnel stepped up to the plate and created AFSPC's first-ever helicopter Air Expeditionary Squadron and successfully deployed it to the region to conduct humanitarian relief operations. Their efforts convincingly demonstrated the importance of Twentieth Air Force's helicopter fleet not just for providing "top cover" for the nuclear security missions, but also as a vital asset that can be called upon to sup-



Visual information

"It has been the greatest honor and pleasure to serve as the Commander of Twentieth Air Force."

- Major General Frank Klotz,
Twentieth Air Force Commander

the Navy's TACAMO airborne very low frequency/low frequency system.

Additionally, in partnership with AFSPC Space and Missile Center, he and his staff completed the final testing and other actions necessary to begin deployment in fiscal year 2006 of the next round of major Minuteman III modernization programs.

A tireless champion for enhancing the security of America's nuclear arsenal, General Klotz personally launched and completed major initiatives to counter the evolving terrorist threat to the nation's critical facilities and to take advantage of the latest de-

port communities across the country in times of disaster. Twentieth Air Force deployed more than 200 personnel consisting of helicopter pilots, security forces, maintenance, public affairs and service personnel in addition to the eight helicopters. These personnel and assets were dispersed over five bases, Columbus AFB, Miss., Keesler AFB, Miss., Lackland AFB, Texas, New Orleans Naval Air Station, and Camp Shelby, Miss.

"It has been the greatest honor and pleasure to serve as the Commander of Twentieth Air Force," General Klotz said as he prepares to assume his new duties as the next Vice Commander of AFSPC.

"I am extremely proud of each and every member of America's ICBM team; proud of their professionalism and devotion to duty; proud of what they do to keep our great country safe, secure and free."

400 MS inactivated after 42 years of service

2nd Lt. Josh Edwards
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

Air Force leaders at Warren inactivated the 400th Missile Squadron Oct. 4, marking the end of an era.

Members of the 400 MS manned launch control centers for the Peacekeeper ICBM which was deactivated Sept. 19 at Warren.

"It's a day of great joy and pride, but also one of sadness and nostalgia," said Major General Frank Klotz, Twentieth Air Force Commander. "From the 10th of December 1963 until today, the 400th Missile Squadron has served nobly and well."

As the guest speaker for the

event, General Klotz praised members of the 400 MS for outstanding service over the years and for adjusting to the reality of the post-Cold War period of ICBM operations.

"This should be a moment of pride for past and present members of this squadron," said General Klotz. "You'll always have your memories and war stories about being part of something special, something that truly made a difference ... a very big difference."

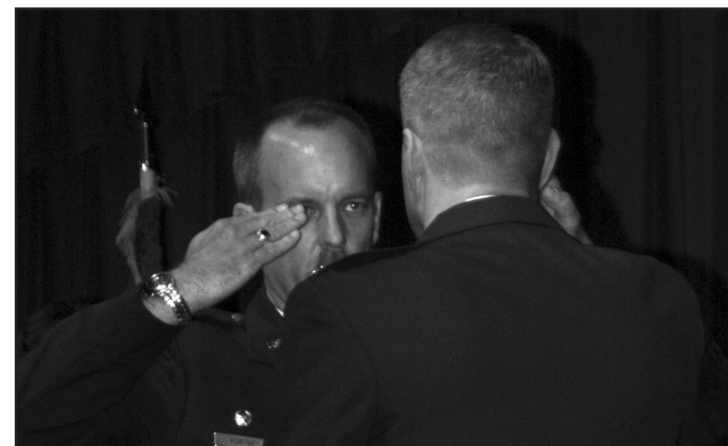
After the general's speech, Lt. Col. David Bliesner, 400 MS Commander, relinquished command of the squadron. Retired Lt. Col. Russell Smith, a member of the original 400th Bomb Squadron formed in

1942, assisted him in casing the 400 MS flag.

"This ceremony brings back different kinds of memories," said Colonel Smith. "It's touching to be honored still and to represent those who are no longer here. I'm sorry to see the 400th go, but it's a good trend."

The 400 MS was originally constituted on Jan. 28, 1942, as the 10th Reconnaissance Squadron, activated Apr. 15, 1942, at Key Field, Miss., and seven days later re-designated the 400th Bomb Squadron. The unit was deactivated Jan. 27, 1946.

The 400th Strategic Missile Squadron was activated Dec. 10, 1963, and reorganized at Warren July 8, 1965, as the



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Steve Goetsch

Col. Michael Fortney, 90th Operations Group Commander, returns the salute of Lt. Col. David Bliesner, 400th Missile Squadron Commander, during the 400 MS inactivation ceremony, signifying the end of an era.

13th Minuteman I Squadron. In 1972, the squadron began conversion to the Minuteman III.

The latest modification was the upgrade to the Peacekeeper missile, the first of which went on alert Oct. 10, 1986.

Briefs

90 MDG closure

The 90th Medical Group will close at 10 a.m., Monday for Wingman Day. For medical concerns, call the appointment line at 773-3461. The clinic will reopen Tuesday.

CDC announcement

The Warren Child Development Program, Youth Programs and Family Child Care Program participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, which provides reimbursement for nutritious meals and snacks served to young children. The goal is to teach good eating habits and assure that well-balanced, nourishing meals are served to children. The same meals will be made available to all enrolled children at no separate charge regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability, and there is no discrimination in the course of the meal service. If you feel you have been discriminated against, write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC. 20250.

New passport policy

As per The State Department, all states in the Mountain Time Zone must now complete their pass port applications on line. Go to <http://travel.state.gov>. Look under Passports on the main page and click on "Applications and Forms," then look on the left side of the screen under the highlighted area "Applications and Forms" and click on "Application for passport, DS-11." Follow the instructions provided.

Print out the completed application single sided and bring it and all other required documents to your scheduled appointment with the passport acceptance agent.

For more information, contact Mr. Ricky Parker, 773-2109.

New WAPS testing procedures

New procedures have been received for administering promotion tests. One change references prohibited items in the testing room. The test administrator is now required to say:

"At this time, please ensure you do not have any books, notepads, calculators, beepers, or cell phones in your possession. These are prohibited items. Anyone found with these items after the test session begins will have their test immediately terminated and will not be permitted to retest."

For more information, contact military testing at 773-3320.

Ready for tomorrow's jobs today

Envision hosts Disability Awareness Month open house

Van Clogh

Envision Xpress

The official theme for this year's National Disability Awareness Employment Month is "Workers with Disabilities: Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs Today." The Secretary of Labor, Elaine L. Chao's theme is to emphasize that people with disabilities are a vital part of the American workforces and are important to our country's future economic success. This theme will be used by the private sector, federal, state, and local governments, and advocacy organization to plan events and programs that showcase the abilities and skills of job candidates who have disabilities.

Public Law 176, enacted by Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. Congress expanded the designation to a month and changed the name

to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" in 1988. The Office of Disability Employment Policy was given responsibility for leading the recognition of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month in 2001.

President Bush announced The New Freedom Initiative on February 1, 2001, followed by Executive Order 13217 on June 18, as a continuous effort to fulfill the promises of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It's a nationwide effort to remove barriers to community living for people of all ages with disabilities and long term illnesses. The initiative is an important step to ensure all Americans have the opportunity to learn and develop skills and engage in productive work, live and participate in communities.

The Office of Disability Employment Policy is the nation's first "assistant secretary level office" specifically addressing policies that

impact the employment of people with disability. Collaborated efforts with other Labor Department agencies, the Employment and Training Administration, and the Civil Right Center has developed methods to make the 3500 One-Stop Career Centers nationwide better to serve people with disabilities. For information about what the Federal Government is doing to assist individuals with disability in finding employment and receiving other benefits log onto www.disabilityinfo.gov.

The National Industries for the Blind and the Warren Air Force Base Envision Xpress, military Base Supply Center will be celebrating SKILCRAFT/JWOD week during the week of Oct. 17 for Disability Awareness Month. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Envision Xpress is hosting a JWOD appreciation open house featuring displays, flyers, free food and giveaways.

Not another AF survey

1st Lt Sheila Brown
90th Mission Support
Squadron

You've likely heard about the Air Force Climate Survey that began Oct. 1 and thought to yourself, "not another survey." Perhaps you just finished your Unit Climate Assessment or some other quality of life survey and do not want to answer any more questions about your boss or how well he or she does his or her job. Fortunately, the Air Force is asking you to take another survey so that it may get a good look at itself from the inside.

How well are leaders performing? Are needs being met in the way of job enhancement, training and development,

flexibility and recognition? Every two years the Air Force presents the climate survey to its members as an opportunity to tell the senior leaders about the unit leaders it has provided you.

This is the only survey that affords participants the chance to speak out directly to Air Force leaders up to and including the Chief of Staff. It is important that everyone take the survey as it ensures the best representation and that everyone is heard.

The survey is completely anonymous and is offered until Nov. 23 at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil>. Next year, the survey results will be available and used by leaders to improve morale, performance and their development.

WHAT'S IN A NAME ...

Names on base and the history behind them

Vesle Parade Ground

As Fort D. A. Russell expanded to the east, Vesle Parade ground was constructed in 1904. The parade ground separates the officer's quarters to the north from the Signal Corps enlisted barracks to the south, and provided an area for the troops to assemble. Vesle Parade is named after a series of battles along the Vesle River in France during World War I.



Construction Corner

Power outages are scheduled for 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday. The following buildings will be effected; 160, 2109, 2111 and 2113. During the switching operation, the base may see minor power fluctuations. A continuation of this outage is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 21 and will effect the following buildings: 297, 298, 300, 233, 234, 235, 238, 240, 241, 236, 303, 242, 244, 245, 246, 247, 305 and 306. Additionally buildings 230 and 232 will experience a two hour outage for additional work. Outages will continue 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 21, and effect the following buildings: 329, 330, Sergeants Row housing, 665, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505 and railroad crossing and Old Glory. The last outages to take place will begin at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 22 and will affect the following buildings: 1235, 1285, 1284, 1244, 1243, 1242, 1247, 1200, 1241, 1245, 1274, 1270, 1250, 1260, 1292, 1294, 1261, 1240, 1271, 1268, 1263, 1267, 1264, 1266, 1265, 1350, 1331, 1336, 1337 and 1340.

Young Warren members enjoy story time at base library



Above: Staff Sgt. Zaida Laboy, 90th Medical Operations Squadron, shows children the consequences of poor dental hygiene in an experiment during dental health story time.

Left: Tech. Sgt. Noel LeMay, 90th Medical Operations Squadron, shows Emma Secor the correct way to brush teeth on a stuffed toy while Autumn White watches intently during the dental health story time at the base library Oct. 7.

Photos by Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon



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food sampling

TWENTIETH AIR FORCE CHANGE OF COMMAND

PARKING AND INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

The Twentieth Air Force Change of Command ceremony will be held at Argonne Parade Grounds starting at 10 a.m., today. Access to Fort Warren Avenue between the Randall Road intersection and the Fort Morgan Way intersection will be limited beginning at 7 a.m.

The primary parking area will be located at the Trail's End Club. Shuttle service will run from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. to the parade grounds. Handicap parking will be available on the parade grounds.

Shuttle service back to the parking area will begin immediately after the ceremony.

Inclement weather plan

If inclement weather occurs, the change of command will be held in Peacekeeper Highbay, Building 1501.

Shuttle services will run from the Trail's End Club, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.

Parking will also be available at the Peacekeeper Highbay, Building 1501.



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. John Ross

ACADEMY CHEMISTRY DEPT. LEADS UAV RESEARCH

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. -- Dr. John Wilkes handles a hydrogen-reactive compound inside the vacuum chamber in the chemistry department. The artificial compound has 10 times the storage density of liquid hydrogen and can be released in a chemical reaction to harness its energy.

Capability assessment helps AF prepare for future

Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders use a future capabilities assessment to assist in planning for 2025 and beyond.

More than 100 participants from the Air Force's planning, operations, research and development communities gathered Oct. 4 in Herndon, Va., to play out scenarios that may threaten the United States in years to come.

Together, those leaders discussed how the Air Force of the future will defend America against threats with the tools it has now. They also discussed what new tools the Air Force will need to fight future threats, said Col. Gail Wojtowicz, division chief for future concepts and transformation of the Air Force plans and programs directorate.

"We are looking at the 2025 time frame and asking what does the Air Force look like 20 years from now," she said. "In the next 20 years, we don't know exactly what it is we will be doing, but we know there are some challenges that we will have to focus on fixing."

This year, those gathered at the assessment focused on two key areas the Air Force believes it can improve: long-range strike capabilities and persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

Long-range strike capability is the ability to reach out across the globe and hit a target. That could mean a gravity weapon used by today's aircraft, or it could mean use of a space weapon 25 years from now.

"Long range strike is the key to everything for us," Colonel Wojtowicz said. "We don't do it as well as we'd like, but we do it better than everybody on the globe. If I want to do long-range strike against country X, today it may be a B-2 [Spirit] delivering a gravity weapon. Twenty years from now it may be a space weapon, so I am calling space command, and they are going to go ahead and put hardware on targets. Our challenge is we need to reach across different stovepipes in the Air Force."

Colonel Wojtowicz also said long-range strike could mean a computer attack on an enemy's command and control networks, or use of a high-powered microwave for the purpose

of disrupting network systems.

Persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance is the ability to monitor an enemy 24 hours a day with an unblinking eye. It is a capability the Air Force is going to need in the future and something discussed at the assessment that ended Oct. 6.

"You are going to have to be able to stare in order to find the things we are looking for," Colonel Wojtowicz said. "If you can't find where the nuclear weapons are, if you don't have the eyes to do that, there is no way you can affect it later on."

During the assessment, participants were given scenarios to play out that involve finding nuclear weapons inside enemy territory. Persistent ISR may be one capability they discover they will need to locate that weapon.

Today, the Air Force has not fully developed persistent ISR that allows it to look deep inside enemy territory. Unmanned aerial vehicles that fly along a nation's borders cannot peer deep enough inside to see what the Air Force needs to see. In space, orbiting satellites' revisit rate is not enough to provide persistent ISR,

and there are places where satellites cannot operate in a geosynchronous orbit.

One solution to providing persistent ISR includes balloons floating in "near space," an area about 18 miles above the surface. That is significantly higher than where a UAV may fly, but not as high as a satellite.

"Currently what we have is weather balloons," Colonel Wojtowicz said. "You have things that look down (with) cameras or we can use them as a communications relay point. Something that high up gives you an incredible amount of range that you can see."

In the past, the future's capability assessment has been called a "war game." Today, it is more of a guided strategic discussion about the Air Force's future capabilities. Participants are challenged with any number of future wartime scenarios and will be called upon to find solutions to those scenarios.

"These are challenges we have to have our senior leaders address today, so we have the tools to affect these things 20 years down the road," Colonel Wojtowicz said.

Running for a cause

CFC kicks-off with fun run



Photos by Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon

Airman 1st Class Andrew West, 90th Comptroller Squadron, stretches before the Combined Federal Campaign 5K Fun Run.



Warren members start the Combined Federal Campaign fun run/walk Tuesday at Argonne Parade Field. About 50 Warren members participated in the CFC kick-off event.

6 by 6

Strong, colorful threads in American fabric

Warren Airman understands importance of celebrating the past

Staff Sgt. Juan Torres, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron, sat down with Airman 1st Class Brandy Holcepl to discuss why Hispanic-American Heritage Month is important to him and to share a little about himself and his past.

What do you think of Hispanic-American Heritage Month?

I think it is a great idea to know where the people in the military come from, and it is encouraging to know that there are people who care about where we come from and are proud of where they're from.

Have you volunteered or been involved in any of the events?

I am the point of contact for the car show and food sampling Oct. 20, and I am on the Hispanic heritage committee.

What do you think is important about Hispanic-American Heritage Month?

Learning who we are when we look into our past.

What is one of your favorite Hispanic-American Heritage Month events?

The Latin Night, it was a great success, and I like to dance.

Where are you from?

I was born in Fort Worth, Texas, but I grew up in Orangeburg, S.C.

What are some differences between home and Warren.

You are a lot closer to the beach back home, and it's warmer and more humid.

What is your favorite memory from home?

Being with my family at Christmas; We would have dinner on Christmas Eve.

Why did you join the Air Force?

To better myself as a citizen and to make my family proud.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brandy Holcepl

Staff Sgt. Juan Torres, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron, checks maintenance documents.

How long have you been in the Air Force?

I have been in for six and a half years.

Have you been stationed on any other bases?

Warren was my first base, then I went to Osan, Korea, for a year in 2002, then I came back here.

What are some of the differences between Osan and Warren?

There is no flight line here, and it is a lot more relaxed and enjoyable. The tempo is slower, well, at least in my job.

Have you been deployed or gone TDY?

I have been deployed twice. Once to Shaikh Isa, Bahrain, for three months and to Tallil Air Base, Iraq, for three months. I also went to Fort Hueneme, Calif., for two weeks for seven-level school.

What job do you do for the Air Force?

Vehicle managing and analysis.

What do you do for your job?

We make sure that all vehicles are maintained in compliance

with the AFI and we do paper work.

What do you like most about the Air Force?

You get to go places for free and the medical and educational benefits.

What do you like most about Warren?

It is quiet, we get all four seasons and summer isn't humid like it is at home.

What do you do in your free time?

I play squadron sports, soccer, go to the gym a lot and do volunteer work.

What kind of volunteer work do you do and why?

I am an instructor for self-aid buddy care. I started doing that when I was an Airman, because you always learn something new and you can never learn enough.

What kind of stuff do you like to do outside of base activities and volunteering?

I like the night life and I love to spend time with my two kids. I have two daughters.

What is your favorite season, holiday, color and car?

My favorite season is summer, holiday is Christmas, color is blue because it goes with everything and my favorite car is the G-65 Mercedes.

What are your favorite food, candy, drink and restaurant?

My favorite food is carnitas, it's a Mexican pork dish, candy is butterscotch candy, drink is Mango Snapple, and restaurant is San Dong, a Chinese restaurant.

What is your favorite television show, movie, singer and book?

My favorite TV show is "Seinfeld" or "Frasier," movie is "Scarface," singer is Nas, a hip-hop artist and book is the "Scarlet Letter."

Season ski pass

Representatives from Eldora Ski Area are scheduled to be at outdoor recreation 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday and Oct. 14 selling their “no blackout dates” military season pass for \$99. Free hot dogs will be available. ODR will offer a \$5 discount on the first ski rental packages for patrons who get fitted for ski or snowboard rentals or current patrons who update their rental info.

For more information, contact ODR at 773-2988.

Strongman/strongwoman contest

A strongman/strongwoman contest is scheduled for 10 a.m., Oct. 21, in the Fall Hall parking lot. Events include a golf cart pull, dumbbell carry, weighted disk contest, tire flip and wheelbarrow race.

Sign up by Oct. 20 at Freedom Hall. Water and sports drinks will be provided. Contestants must be 18 or older.

For more information, call 773-6172.

Lights On After School

The Youth Center will hold a Lights On After School open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Oct. 20. A guest speaker will talk about “saying no to drugs” and other issues. Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, call 773-2564.

Youth dance classes

Register at the youth center for youth dance classes that are being taught at Fall Hall. Class fees are \$30 per month, \$25 per each additional family member or class. Classes will start with a minimum of four students. For more information, call 773-2564.

Pumpkin patch/corn maze trip

Outdoor recreation is hosting a trip to the corn maze and pumpkin patch on Oct. 15.

The trip will leave at 9 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$12 for children (ages 4 to 12) and seniors (60+). Parents of children under

4 pay their transportation fee of \$6.

Trip includes entrance fee and transportation; pumpkins are available for purchase at an additional cost.

For more information, call ODR at 773-2988.

Family night at the club

Families are invited to the “Charlie Brown Great Pumpkin Patch” family night 5 p.m., Oct. 27, at the Trail’s End Club.

A jump house, games, putt putt golf, games and more will be available for children.

Dinner will consist of pizza and pasta buffet dinner that includes beverage and dessert. Cost is \$6.95 for adults, \$8.95 for nonmembers, \$3.95 for children ages 6 to 10 and free for children ages 5 and younger.

For more information, call the Trail’s End Club at 773-3048.

Trick or Treat Off the Street

On Halloween, the Pronghorn center will be

transformed into a Trick or Treat Off the Street Treat from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 31.

The youth center staff and volunteers will host a haunted house, crafts, ghost bowling and many other games for children. The event is free and dinner will be available for a nominal fee.

For more information, call the youth center at 773-2564.

Coaches needed

Coaches are needed for youth cheerleaders and basketball teams. No experience required.

For more information, call 773-2564.

Children’s story time

Story time is scheduled to be held every Friday at 11 a.m. at the base library.

Oct. 14: National Fire Week. Craft: making a fire truck out of the top of an egg carton. A visit from a firefighter is scheduled.

Oct. 21: Adopt-A-Shelter-Dog Month. A special guest, adopted dog Barkley will be in attendance.

Oct. 28: Halloween. Craft: black sock bat. For more information, call the library at 773-3416.

Used vehicle check

Receive a free used car check during October and save \$26.

For more information, or to make an appointment, call the auto skills center at 773-3169.

Save money in services facilities

Club members save 10 percent on Tuesdays during the membership drive, now through Nov. 30 when visiting Warren Lanes (does not include league fees), the Trail’s End Club, Warren Golf Course, outdoor recreation, FAM Camp, aquatic center, arts and crafts center, auto skills center, Rubyjuice and AAFES. AAFES is limited to a one item purchase of up to \$500. Members must show club card and pay by cash, check or club card.

No other credit cards may be used to receive this offer.

6 by 6

SHIRTS CORNER

Customs and courtesies tips from Warren first sergeants

Master Sgt. Gerald Dickson
90th Communications Squadron First Sergeant

This is borrowed from the Air Force First Sergeant Academy (author unknown). How important is your time?

A man came home from work late again, tired and irritated, to find his 5-year-old son waiting for him at the door. "Daddy, may I ask you a question?" "Yeah, sure, what is it?" replied the man. "Daddy, how much do you make an hour?" "That's none of your business! What makes you ask such a thing?" the man said angrily. "I just want to know. Please tell me, how much do you make an hour?" pleaded the little boy. "If you must know, I make \$20 an hour." "Oh," the little boy replied, head bowed. Looking up, he said, "Daddy may I borrow \$10 please?"

The father was furious. "If the only reason you wanted to know how much money I make is just so you can borrow some to buy a silly toy or some other nonsense, then you march yourself straight to your room and go to bed. Think about why you're being so selfish. I work long, hard hours everyday and don't have time for such childish games!"

The little boy quietly went to his room and shut the door. The man sat down and started to get even madder about the little boy's questioning. How dare he ask such questions only to get some money?

After an hour or so, the man had calmed down, and started to think he may have been a little hard on his son. Maybe there was something he really needed to buy with that \$10 and he really didn't ask for money very often. The man went to the door of the little boy's room and opened the door. "Are you asleep son?" he asked. "No daddy, I'm awake," replied the boy. "I've been thinking, maybe I was too hard on you earlier," said the man. "It's been a long day and I took my aggravation out on you. Here's that \$10 you asked for."

The little boy sat straight up, beaming. "Oh, thank you daddy!" he yelled. Then, reaching under his pillow, he pulled out some more crumpled up bills. The man, seeing that the boy already had some money, started to get angry again. The little boy slowly counted his money, then looked up at the man. "Why did you want more money if you already had some?" the father grumbled. "Because I didn't have enough, but now I do," the little boy replied. "Daddy, I have \$20 now. Can I buy an hour of your time?"

And the answer is: it depends on who's perspective you view that time from as to how important it is. Do you have a minute?, is really a loaded question, when your troop asks in passing. What they really want to know is, am I important enough for you to spare some time for?

Education center briefs

Online tuition assistance: The Education and Training Flight is conducting briefings to provide information on the new Air Force Virtual Education Center On-Line Tuition Assistance Program. Active duty members currently using TA or contemplating using TA in fiscal year 2006, as well as their supervisors and first sergeants, are highly encouraged to attend one of the briefings. Additional briefings will be conducted next month. Education center staff will also be available to provide information during commander's calls or staff meetings around the base. For more information, visit the Education and Training Flight customer service counter (1205 Black Powder Rd.) or call 773-2117.

Warren combined graduation: A ceremony honoring graduates of the Community College of the Air Force, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and Park University will be held at 2 p.m., Nov. 3 at the Pronghorn Center. Rehearsal will be held at 9 a.m., Nov. 3 at the Pronghorn Center (duty uniform). Graduation invitations are currently available at the education center. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

Resource room: Did you know that the education center has a resource room with computer and Internet access for student use? Also available are televisions and VCRs and a large library of educational materials, including study guides and videotapes. It is available for use any time the building is open, including evenings when classes are in session. For more information, call the education center at 773-2117.

90th Medical Group's 6th Annual Trick or Treat at the MTF



When: October 28, 4:45 p.m.

Where: 90th Medical Group, 6900 Alden Dr.

Who: All ages are welcome to come enjoy the fun

Be sure to visit our scary Haunted House

Personnel Reliability Program is everyone's responsibility

Question: Can an individual certified under the personnel reliability program be hypnotized?

Answer: An individual certified under the PRP will not submit to hypnosis without the knowledge and consent of the individual's certifying official.

Look for general knowledge questions and answers every week in the Sentinel, courtesy of the base PRP office.